work in the interest of the general administration and half-grant for the construction of medical buildings approved by Government and for equipment for medical institutions.

" (c) No, Sir.

" (d) Does not arise."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government have received any representation from the President, Malabar District Board, in this connexion and also may I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government will be pleased to contribute more money in view of the fact that the contributions already given are meagre and if it is not possible to do so, whether the Government will be pleased to take over all the Local Fund Dispensaries under their control? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The President, District Board, has requested that 50 per cent contribution should be given for all the 23 medical institutions and that matter is under the consideration of the Government."

Extension of cheris in Kallakurichi taluk

* 2068 Q.—Sri L. ANANDAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any petitions from any of the cheris in Kallakurichi taluk were received in 1954 by the Government for the extension of cheris to provide increased housing accommodation; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) Village-sites have been selected for extension of the cheri at Vadakkanandal and further steps are being taken by the Collector. Proposals for provision of house-sites in Varanjaram cheri are also under consideration by the Collector."

Construction of a bridge over the Pennar river

* 2069 Q.—Sri A. MUTHUSWAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether there is any scheme pending with the Government to construct a bridge over the Pennar river connecting Tirukkoyilur and Arakandanallur in Tirukkoyilur taluk?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The answer is in the affirmative."

Sri A. MUTHUSWAMY :—" திருக்கோவிலூருக்கும் அரகண்டநல்லூருக்கும் மத்தியில் ஓடும் தென்பண்ணை நதியில் மாரி காலங்களில் எற்படும் வெள்ளப் பெருக்கத்தால் அதிகப்படியான ஜனங்களுக்கு உயிர் சேதம் எற்படுகின்றன. அங்கு பாலம் கட்ட வேண்டியது மிகவும் அவசியம்

10th August 1955]

என்று அரசாங்கத்தைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். தவிர எப்பொழுது இந்த வேலை ஆரம்பிக்கப்படும், அதற்கு சாங்ஷன் செய்யப்பட்ட தொகை எவ்வளவு என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிவிப்பார்களா ?"

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—'அங்கு பாலம் கட்டுவதாகத்தான் உத்தேசம். மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தின் அனுமதிக்காகக் காத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். 16¼ லட்சம் ரூபாயில் அங்கு பாலம் கட்டுவதாக உத்தேசிக்கப் பட்டிருக்கிறது."

Supply of mid-day meals to fishermen children.

* 2070 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal to supply mid-day meals to fishermen children attending the schools in the State; and

(*b*) whether the Parava community children are provided with mid-day meals in their respective places?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Pupils belonging to Parava community in Harijan Welfare Schools are provided with mid-day meals."

Panchayats and municipalities constituted in 1954

* 2071 *Q.*—SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state the number of panchayats and municipalities constituted during the calendar year 1954?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" Three hundred and fifty-eight new panchayats were constituted during the year 1954. No municipality was constituted during the year."

SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM :—" Sir, the supplementary question I am now putting may not be relevant to the main question. I am only putting it to impress upon the Government the hardships undergone by the newly constituted panchayats in the matter of getting stationery articles. I understand Messrs. Hoe & Co., who have been authorized to supply the stationery articles, are not in a position to supply these articles . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member himself says that the question he is putting is not relevant to the main question. How can I allow that question? "

SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM :—" I appeal to the Chair to allow the question. I only wish to know from the Government which company is supplying stationery to the panchayats and whether